1st November 1932]

Law and Order—General

Deputation to the Collector of South Kanara in regard to Police excesses.

* 249 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a very influential and representative deputation of the residents of South Kanara waited on the Collector on 24th April 1932 and requested him to institute a public enquiry into the cases of illegal and unauthorized and excessive beating by the Police of individual volunteers less than five in number for picketing in the district of South Kanara since the beginning of April 1932, a statement of which was given to the Collector by them;

(*b*) whether he will place a copy of the said statement with the names and designations of the deputationists on the table of the House; and

(*c*) what action the Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) A copy[a] of the petition is placed on the table of the House.

(*c*) Enquiry has been made by the District Magistrate. The Government are calling for some additional information from the Inspector-General of Police.

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"May I know why, in spite of the notice being given by the Collector to the Police, the Police non-co-operated in the enquiry held by the Collector?"

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"I do not think the Police non-co-operated. The House knows that the District Superintendent of Police was transferred. The Inspector-General is calling for further information so that the Government may consider what further action is necessary."

Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT:—"My point is that, if the Police had tendered their evidence before the Collector, the enquiry would have been complete and there would have been no necessity for further enquiry."

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MAHOMED USMAN SAHIB Bahadur:—"A further enquiry has to be made by the Inspector-General in any case."

Picketing of Messrs. D. Kanji Brothers, Mangalore, on 10th April 1932.

* 250 *Q.*—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that on 10th April 1932 two picketers picketed the foreign cloth shop of Messrs. D. Kanji Brothers, Mangalore, and were severely beaten by the Police;

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[a] Printed as Appendix V on pages 258–265 infra.